

Elizabeth's Engagement Announced

Mountbatten Wins Consent of King in True Romance

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LONDON, July 10 (Thursday.) (U.P.)—The King and Queen announced today the engagement of Princess Elizabeth, heiress presumptive to the throne, to Lt. Philip Mountbatten, who gave up a principedom in Greece because it stood in the way of their romance.

Their marriage, unlike many in the long history of royal families, will be for love. King George VI and Queen Elizabeth were sure of that before they gave their consent.

At her father's suggestion that separation might show her whether their love was a passing thing, Princess Elizabeth did not see Philip for the four months the royal family was in South Africa earlier this year.

Brief Announcement

When she was certain that Philip was the man she wanted to marry and her father and mother decided it was time to make the announcement, they did it in one sentence:

"It is with the greatest pleasure that the King and Queen announce the betrothal of their dearly beloved daughter, the Princess Elizabeth, to Lt. Philip Mountbatten, R.N., son of the late Prince Andrew and Princess Andrew (Princess Alice of Battenburg,) to which union the King has gladly given his consent."

Just before the announcement was read last night to correspondents who had been called to Buckingham Palace, Philip arrived from the naval base at Corsham, Wiltshire, where he is an instructor. He will, it was understood, spend the next few days of his "summer leave" at the palace.

Wedding Not Set

Although the announcement was read to correspondents about 6 o'clock and printed in the court circular, its publication otherwise was forbidden until 12:30 a.m. today. And it was noteworthy that although King George "gladly" gave his consent to the betrothal, the announcement did not mention marriage. That is a matter upon which the Privy Council first must pass. It undoubtedly will approve.

It was said officially that the wedding will be held "before next spring." Unofficial sources at Buckingham Palace understood that it would be held in Westminster Abbey in October. Princess Elizabeth, who became 21 last April 21 while she was in South Africa, received her engagement ring "some time ago." It has three diamonds, but Princess Elizabeth has not yet worn it in public.

The Princess and Philip, 26, who was sixth in the line of succession to the Greek throne until he became a British commoner last spring, will be the

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Engagement of Princess Elizabeth to Mountbatten Announced by King

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handsomest royal pair in Europe.

Princess Elizabeth, who is much prettier than her photographs, is 5 feet 5 inches tall and weighs about 120 pounds. She has brown hair, white, even and rather large teeth and a complexion equal to her mother's famous pink-and-cream skin. Her eyes are blue and widely spaced.

'Notable' Figure

Her dressmakers say she has a 35-inch bust and 37-inch hips. A correspondent who saw her in a one-piece swimming suit in South Africa said her figure was notable.

Philip is 6 feet 2 inches tall and broad-shouldered. He has Danish, English and German blood and is a blond version of his handsome uncle, Viscount Mountbatten, Viceroy of India. Mountbatten is generally credited with playing the part of matchmaker in the royal romance.

Philip's friends described him as "charming" and a "man's man." He weighs 185 pounds. He speaks French, German, Italian and English fluently, but not Greek and Danish. He loves dancing and the theater, as does Elizabeth.

New Title Planned

Although he is now only a plain Briton, it was considered likely that he will be given a title after the wedding. King George VI is understood to have decided to make the couple Duke and Duchess of Clarence, which are royal titles. The Dukedom of Clarence was created in 1362.

The couple first met when he was 18 and she was 13. They did not speak. Matters were differ-

ent during the war, when he was in the Royal Navy and they began to see each other frequently in London homes, especially at the residences of Viscount Mountbatten.

Love Match Seen

They soon realized they were in love, but, according to court circles, Philip did not formally propose until January of this year, just before the King and

he became a cadet in the royal navy when he was 18.

Philip can never become King. When Elizabeth becomes Queen he will be Prince Consort.

Princess Elizabeth presently receives £25,000 (\$100,000) a year. According to precedent, this will be increased to £60,000 (\$240,000) a year when she is married.

Stranded Ship Breaks in Two

HONOLULU, July 9. (U.P.)—The 8590-ton Philippine freighter Dona Trinidad has split in two on the rocks of Sakhalin Island in Russian waters and its crew of 40 men have abandoned the ship, the Coast Guard radio reported today.

The vessel, which has been aground since June 24, began sending distress signals this morning and two Japanese rescue ships put out from the island of Hokkaido.

Protection Asked by Soviet Unions

MOSCOW, July 9. (AP)—Trud, official organ of the Soviet trade unions, called on the unions today to see that legislation protecting workers is enforced.

In its lead editorial Trud cited abuses of labor legislation and said the unions should stop "the illegal introduction by certain politically nearsighted officials of overtime."

The editorial demanded that executives ignoring Soviet labor laws be removed from responsible positions.

Queen and Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret Rose left for their South African tour.

There is another matter besides renouncing Greek citizenship that Philip must take care of before the wedding. He will renounce his Greek Orthodox faith and become a member of the Church of England.

No Greek Blood

There is no Greek blood in Philip, who is a second cousin of Elizabeth. He was entrusted to Viscount Mountbatten's care when he was 4 and studied at schools in England and Scotland.